CHARLES by the grace of God, King of Scotland, England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith. To our Lovits Heraulds Meſſengers, our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and ſeverally ſpecially conſtitute greeting. Forſameikle as Wee are not ignorant of the great diſorders, which have happened of late within this our ancient Kingdome of Scotland, occaſioned, as is pretended, upon the introduction of the Service book, book of Canons, and High Commiſſion, thereby fearing innovation of Religion and Laws. For ſatisfaction of which fears, we well hoped, that the two proclamations of the eleventh of December, and nineteenth of Februarie, had been abundantly ſufficient: Nevertheleſſe, finding that diſorders have daily ſo increaſed, that a powerfull rather then perſwaſive way, might have been juſtly expected from Us: Yet We out of Our innative indulgence to our people, grieving to ſee them run themſelves ſo headlong into ruine, are graciouſly pleaſed to try, if by a faire way We can reclaime them from their faults, rather then to let them periſh in the ſame. And therefore once for all We have thought fit to declare, and hereby to aſſure all our good people, that We neither were, are, nor by the Grace of God ever ſhall be ſtained with Popiſh ſuperſtition: But by the contrarie, are reſolved to maintain the true Proteſtant Chriſtian Religion already profeſt within this our ancient Kingdome. And for farther clearing of ſcruples, We do hereby aſſure all men, that We will neither now nor hereafter preſſe the practice of the foreſaid Canons and Service book, nor any thing of that nature, but in ſuch a fair and legall way, as ſhall ſatisfie all our loving ſubjects, that We neither intend innovation in Religion or Laws. And to this effect have given order to diſcharge all Acts of Counſell made thereanent. And for the high Commiſſion, We ſhall ſo rectifie it with the help of advice of Our privie Counſell, that it ſhall never impugne the Laws, nor be a juſt grievance to Our loyall Subjects. And what is farder fitting to be agitat in generall Aſſemblies and Parliament, for the good and peace of the Kirk, and peaceable government of the ſame, in eſtabliſhing of the Religion preſently profeſt, ſhall likewaies be taken into Our Royall conſideration, in a free Aſſembly and Parliament, which ſhall be indicted and called with Our beſt conveniencie. And We hereby take God to witneſſe, that Our true meaning and intention is, not to admit of any innovations either in Religion or Laws, but carefully to maintain the puritie of Religion already profeſt and eſtabliſhed, and no wayes to ſuffer our Laws to be infringed. And although We cannot be ignorant, that there may be ſome diſ-affected perſons who will ſtrive to poſſeſſe the hearts of Our good ſubjects, that this Our gracious declaration is not to be regarded: Yet We do expect that the behaviour of all Our good and loyall ſubjects will be ſuch, as may give teſtimonie of their obedience, and how ſenſible they are of Our grace and favour, that thus paſſeth over their miſdemeanors, and by their future carriage make appeare, that it was only fear of innovation, that hath cauſed the diſorders which have happened of late within this Our ancient Kingdome. And are confident, that they will not ſuffer themſelves to be ſeduced and miſ-led, to miſconſtrue Us or Our actions, but reſt heartily ſatisfied with Our pious and reall intentions, for maintenance of the true Religion and Laws of this Kingdome. VVherefore We require and heartily wiſh all Our good people carefully to advert to theſe dangerous ſuggeſtions, and not to permit themſelves, blindely under pretext of Religion, to be led in diſobedience, and draw on infinitely to Our grief their own ruine, which We have, and ſtill ſhall ſtrive to ſave them from, ſo long as VVe ſee not royall Authoritie ſhaken off. And moſt unwillingly ſhall make uſe of that power which God hath endued Us with, for reclaiming of diſobedient people.

OUR VVILL is herefore, and VVe charge you ſtraitly and command, that incontinent theſe Our Letters ſeen, you paſſe to the market croſſe of Our Burgh of Edinburgh, and all other places needfull, and there by open proclamation make publication hereof to all and ſundry Our good ſubjects, where through none pretend ignorance of the ſame. The which to do, VVe commit to you conjunctly and ſeverally Our full power, by theſe Our Letters, delivering the ſame by you duely execute and indorſed again to the Bearer. Given at Our Court of Greenwich the twenty eighth day of June, and of Our Reigne the thirteenth year, 1638.

Per Regem.